

The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D. C. 20505

Trip File

16 February 1978

The Honorable Birch Bayh, Chairman
Select Committee on Intelligence
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Birch,

During our breakfast conversation, you were kind enough to ask what you or others in the Select Committee might do to assure public understanding of the country's need for good intelligence. I'm forwarding a letter which I received in response to a seminar and speech I gave at Stanford University recently. In particular, I would note recommendation 5 of this gentleman, which encourages members of the oversight committees to speak out in public in support of our intelligence operations.

Just wanted to pass this along.
Warm regards.

Yours,



STANSFIELD TURNER

Enclosure

HOOVER INSTITUTION

ON WAR, REVOLUTION AND PEACE

Stanford, California 94305



78-426

February 7, 1978

Admiral Stansfield Turner
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, DC 20505

Dear Admiral Turner:

I thought our seminar-type discussion yesterday afternoon at the Stanford Student Union was very helpful in clarifying our understanding of intelligence operations and hope that you found our views useful. Another engagement prevented me from attending your evening address, but four students who did attend came away impressed with you personally and, I think, they have a deeper appreciation of how the CIA works.

My main reason for writing is to summarize my thoughts on how the CIA can establish better rapport with the public in general, and with academe specifically:

1. Increase the circulation of unclassified reports.
2. Encourage CIA employees to write and publish scholarly books and participate in academic seminars and meetings.
3. Correct public perception that the U.S. is extremely active in covert operations. Make more widely known the fact that much of the total involves drugs and narcotics.
4. Give public better understanding of why covert operations are necessary, i.e. publicize information of adversary activities in covert operations.

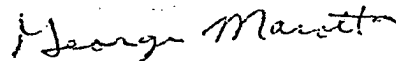
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5. Senators and representatives on the oversight committees should be encouraged to give assurances to the public that intelligence and covert operations are under control, do conform to our moral and ethical codes, and are in accordance with foreign policy objectives.
6. As intelligence is an instrument of foreign policy, it is important that the President and Secretary of State make more frequent references to the importance of all instruments in achieving objectives.
7. Of course, the work that you are doing personally is invaluable and should be continued. It is important that people have confidence in the CIA Director.

In a freshman seminar I give on U.S. foreign policy, it was made clear to me that each generation must assess anew the U.S. position in the world and make a new commitment. (I recall the debate we had after World War II on the operations of an intelligence service in a democracy.)

If there is any way that I can help further in this regard, I would be pleased to assist you in your efforts.

Sincerely,



George Marotta
Assistant Director for
Public Affairs and Publications

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